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ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1937

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D., B.Ch.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PENISTONE :
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PENISTONE RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER,

1937.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PENISTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1937.

The feature of the year was the extra-ordinarily low infantile mortality rate. This is particularly gratifying since in these days the increase in the general population is becoming ever less and less, and every new life saved is a greater and greater asset to the nation.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the District.

Population.—For statistical purposes the population of the seven parishes of the District which covers an area of 15,258 acres, a large portion of which is moorland, has been returned by the Registrar General as 5,145. There is still a drift of young adult life into adjacent and distant areas. The increasing activity in house building however, will almost certainly cause this migration from the district to lessen.

The inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture, in steel production, in coal mining and stone quarrying, in wire drawing, and in the services appertaining to such industries.

While the general revival in trade has appreciably lessened the number of the unemployed, evidence of a recession was apparent during the later months of the year. There are no outworkers.

The Rateable Value of the District is £21,395, and a penny rate is equal to £89 2s. 11d.

Vital Statistics.

The number of inhabited houses has now risen to 1,435, this gives an average of occupants per house of 3.5.

Births.—The number of births registered in the District during the year was 66 : —males 35, females 31. This gives a birth-rate of 12.8 per thousand of the population, a figure very slightly higher than that for 1936—12.4, but lower than the average for the District of the immediately preceding decade—16.4, and lower for the year than that for all England—14.9. This low birth-rate is disquieting but it is not merely local, being typical of the general decline which in recent years has been characteristic of highly civilised communities. It may be that for our Western civilisation, it is “The Writing on the Wall.”

There were 2 illegitimate births.

The births had the following distribution : —

		Males		Females		Total
Thurgoland	...	6	...	9	...	15
Silkstone	...	8	...	6	...	14
Cawthorne	...	8	...	6	...	14
Oxspring	...	10	...	7	...	17
Hunshelf	...	2	...	1	...	3
Langsett	...	1	...	2	...	3
		—		—		—
Total	...	35	...	31	...	66
		—		—		—

Deaths.—The number of deaths from all causes registered in the district during the year was 47—males 25, females 22, a death-rate of 9.1 per thousand of the population. When however the figure is corrected for inward and outward transfers it becomes 57—males 28, females 29, representing a death-rate of 11.0. This is lower than that for 1936—14.7, lower than the average for the District of the last decade—11.4, and also lower than that for all England during the year—12.4.

The low death-rate is a matter for profound congratulation. It has to be remembered, too, that of the deaths registered, no fewer than 22 were of persons of upwards of 70 years of age.

Inquests were held in 5 cases.

The deaths outside the District occurred at Sheffield, Barnsley, Penistone, Storthes Hall and Stainboro'.

The distribution of the deaths registered in the District was as follows :—

		Males		Females		Total
Thurgoland	...	9	...	2	...	11
Silkstone	...	8	...	9	...	17
Cawthorne	...	3	...	4	...	7
Oxspring	...	3	...	3	...	6
Hunshelf	...	2	...	3	...	5
Langsett	...	0	...	1	...	1
		—		—		—
Total	...	25	...	22	...	47
		—		—		—

Respiratory Diseases.—The deaths registered as occurring from Respiratory Diseases numbered 6—males 4, females 2. Pneumonia (all forms except Tuberculous) was responsible for 4, Bronchitis for 2—all males.

Infantile Mortality.—The deaths among children under one year of age numbered 1, a female, a mortality rate of 15.1 per thousand births. This is but one third of the figure for last year—46.1, and but one fourth, approximately, of that for all England—58.

In twenty-three years—the length of time I have held the office of Medical Officer of Health – I have never known so low an infantile mortality. May it prove an augury for the future, and a stimulus to all parents.

The cause of death was Congenital Heart Disease, and the infant survived its birth by only five days.

The following is an Extract from the Vital Statistics of the year :—

		Males	Females	Total		
Births	{	Legitimate	34	30	64	} Birth-rate 12.8
		Illegitimate	1	1	2	
			—	—	—	
		Total	35	31	66	
		—	—	—		
Deaths	(corrected)	28	29	57	Death-rate 11.0	

No woman died in, or in consequence of child-birth.

There were no deaths from Measles (all ages) nor from Diarrhœa (under two years).

The death under one year of age was of a legitimate infant.

General Provision of Health Services in the District.

The hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority are two in number, one for infectious diseases generally, and one for Smallpox. The former is situated at Hoyland Moor, Hoyland Swaine, and the latter in Roughbirchworth, Oxspring.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate and homeless children, exists in the Public Assistance Infirmary at Penistone.

Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are admitted as circumstances permit, to the adjacent and County Sanatoria,

For maternity, juvenile, and non-infectious cases, and for cases of accident, the Public Assistance Infirmary at Penistone, and the General Hospitals at Sheffield and Barnsley are available.

A motor vehicle is supplied by the Authority for the conveyance of fever cases to the Isolation Hospitals. For other cases, ambulances are provided by the Authority—and for contributors to the Penny-in-the-£ scheme—by the Sheffield Hospitals.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—Owing to the scattered nature of the area, no further developments have taken place during the year. Many of the population visit the centres in adjacent districts. If such centres are not to antagonise the General Medical Practitioner, it is essential, in my opinion, that where those responsible for their management, find special or indeed any disorders, they should forthwith refer the patients concerned to their several medical advisers.

The Public Health Officers.—These are the Medical Officer of Health to the Authority—a part time Officer—and the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances—a whole time Officer.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—This continues largely in the hands of voluntary agencies, and the various parishes either have their own, or contribute to adjacent District Nursing Associations. No arrangements exist for the nursing of cases of infectious diseases at home—a practice which is discouraged—but during epidemic outbreaks a Health Visitor may be sent into the affected area, on the instructions of the County Medical Officer of Health.

The nurses of the District Nursing Associations act as the midwives of the area. There are however, two independent midwives, at Silkstone and Oxspring respectively.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918.—Under this Order a sufficient supply of milk and food for expectant and nursing mothers, and of milk for infants and children under five years of age is available.

Legislation in force.

The Public Health Act, 1875.

Section 16, P.H.A., 1890.

Section 59, P.H.A., 1907.

Slaughter House Regulations.

Urban Powers—Street Lighting for Thurgoland and Oxspring.

Local Bye-Laws.

Section 42, P.H.A., 1907.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

See also Table C. appended hereto.

Water Supply.—The water supply of the District is obtained from deep bore-holes, from upland surface collecting areas, and from public and private springs and wells. Distribution is in the hands of the Local Authority, and of the Barnsley Corporation. Save at Upper Oxspring, there has been no complaint of shortage during the year.

Rivers and Streams.—These continue to be seriously polluted by Sulphuric Acid from the wire-drawing mills on their banks, and by ochre-containing colliery fluids. Under-water life in them is non-existent.

Drainage and Sewage.—These continue to improve as extensions of the various water supplies take place. See Table C.

Closet Accommodation.—It is again satisfactory to be able to record that water closets are replacing dry closets in ever increasing numbers. Much however yet remains to be done. Details of progress made will be found in Table C appended to this report.

Scavenging.—The scavenging scheme of the Local Authority continues to function admirably. It is very imperative, however, that householders assist the scheme by burning in their kitchen ranges or stoves all waste material that can be destroyed by fire.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.—A statement of the details of this will be found in the appendices to this report.

Schools.—The nine occupied schools in the District have been periodically visited and inspected, and matters of health interest discussed with the staffs.

All schools are disinfected during the holiday seasons, and after the occurrence of infectious disease upon the premises. It was not found necessary to close any of the schools during the year on public health grounds. For financial reasons, however, the schools at Langsett and Hunshelf were closed during January by the Education Authority, this on account of Influenza.

Milk Supply.—All the cow-keepers in the District are purveyors of milk, and the supply has kept pace with the demand. But more milk and yet more milk ought to be consumed. It is nature's first food for all mammals, it contains everything that is requisite and necessary ; and having regard to its nutritive value it is a cheap food. For children it is especially valuable.

The cow-sheds have been regularly inspected, and found to be fairly satisfactory. There is still room, however, for greater cleanliness, and better ventilation. Ten cows suffering from Tuberculosis in some form, were destroyed. I would yet again most strongly urge that all herds be systematically tuberculin-tested.

Pasteurisation is a procedure of great virtue, but raw milk, pure at its source, and uncontaminated by milker, or by transport to consumer, is infinitely preferable to milk so treated.

Other Foods.—No public Abattoir has yet been established in the District. The private slaughter houses have been periodically inspected, and existing powers have been found adequate in dealing with any insanitary conditions in such places.

Private Slaughter Houses, December, 1937.

Registered	...	1
Licensed	...	8
		<hr/>
Total	...	9
		<hr/>

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases Generally.—From Infectious Disease, the District was more happy in its relative immunity than during 1936. A widely spread epidemic of Influenza, however, occurred in January and February. This epidemic was characterised by the absence of complications, and by the extra-ordinarily large number of children affected. A disquieting, if small, epidemic of Diphtheria also broke out in Thurgoland during the late Spring. The origin of this was undiscoverable.

A supply of Anti-Diphtheritic Serum is always available, and its prompt exhibition is urged in all cases suspected to be suffering from Diphtheria.

Bacteriological aids to diagnosis are within easy reach at Wakefield.

No return cases of Scarlet Fever have been noted.

Arrangements for isolation and treatment exist in the Isolation hospitals near Penistone. Where cases are treated at home—a deplorable practice—as complete a segregation as is possible, is insisted upon.

All cases of infectious disease have been carefully investigated, and every possible step has been taken to trace their origin, and to limit and stamp out infection.

Disinfection of infected premises, bedding, clothing, etc., has been systematically done, and disinfectants have been supplied in all cases.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

During the year twenty-one cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease were reported to me ten fewer than in 1936. The following table gives their nature and distribution :—

	Thurgoland	Silkstone	Cawthorne	Langsett	Hunshelf	Oxspring	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	1	1	0	0	4
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Diphtheria ...	13	0	0	0	0	0	13
Tuberculosis ...	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Total ...	14	1	2	2	1	1	21

All cases of Scarlet Fever were treated in hospital. This is as it should be.

The cases of Diphtheria had a very scattered distribution—contacts escaping in nearly every instance—and no common source of infection could be traced, in particular no carrier could be discovered. I inoculated a number of children, but it remains regrettable that so many parents still decline to have their children so protected, and against so dire a disorder. In my experience, the practice of protective inoculation has been followed by no untoward result, while immunity for years may be confidently anticipated in at least ninety per cent. of cases.

Two new cases of Tuberculosis are not a great number. Nevertheless since such a disease is essentially a “Disease of Darkness,” and the fruit of ill-assorted marriages, its occurrence at all is an indictment of housing conditions, and ever more so, of social habits. Farm stock is carefully selected for breeding purposes, yet man weds where he will, the confetti falls in showers, and the organ peals out triumphantly “The Voice that breathed o’er Eden.” If the fathers *will* eat sour grapes, is it to be wondered at that the children’s teeth are set on edge. And the tragedy is that people of a Tuberculous tendency are notoriously prolific.

No action had to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Housing.

General Housing Conditions of the District.—The total number of houses in the District is now 1,435 – an increase of 63, and the number for the working class is 1,378, an increase of 52. Since this gives an average of just over three persons per house, it does not suggest over-crowding. In point of fact there is over-crowding, for the majority of the houses are small, and as so frequently happens, the larger families are found in the smaller houses. Many of the houses, too, are hoary with age and dilapidated, dampness prevails, bedroom accommodation is inadequate, and window space deficient. There is now, however, considerable building activity throughout the District, and under the Slum Clearance Order, the worst of the bad property is disappearing.

A summary of the housing work done during the year will be found in an appendix to this report.

Factories and Workshops.

The number of these remains unchanged. They have been periodically inspected, and found to be fairly satisfactory.

A Register of Works is kept at the Council Offices.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D.

Thurgoland,
21st May, 1938.

Statement of Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year 1937.

Cases notified or otherwise ascertained :—Scarlet Fever 4 ;
Diphtheria including Mem. Croup 13 ; Erysipelas 2.

Cases removed to Hospital :—Scarlet Fever 4 ; Diphtheria 13.

TABLE C, 1937.

 Penistone Rural Sanitary District.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1937, for Nuisances only—90	
Nuisances found in 1937—13	Total needing abatement—22
Nuisances in hand end of 1936—9	Abated during 1937—16
	Outstanding end of 1937—6
Informal Notices served—13	Complied with—7
Statutory Notices served—0	Complied with—0
Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None	

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses—No. in District, 0; No. on Register, 0 ; total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; general condition— Legal proceedings—0	
Houses let in Lodgings—No. in District, 0; No. on Register, 0 ; Total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; General Condition—	
Canal Boats—0	
Knackers' Yards—0	
Tents, Vans and Sheds—0; No. on Register—0 ; Inspections—0 ; General Condition—	
Offensive Trades—Fishfriers ; No. in District, 0 ; No. on Register, 0 ; Total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; General Condition— Legal Proceedings 0.	
Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades?—No	

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—

Particulars of any sewer extensions during 1937—Provision of 9in. Sewer to building development, Cawthorne Lane, Cawthorne	
Details of any portion of district still requiring— (a) Sewering—None known (b) Improvement of defective sewers—None known	
No. of houses not connected to sewers—Investigation proceeding	
Sewage Disposal Works—Particulars of any extensions made during 1937—None Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works—None Any complaint from West Riding Rivers Board—No	

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

No. of Privies with open middens—60	
No. of Pail or Tub Closets—30	
No. of Privies with covered middens—257	
No. of Water Closets—480 ; Waste Water Closets—1	
No. of Privies re-constructed during 1937—(a) as W.C.'s, 5 (b) other, 0	
No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1937— (a) W.C.'s, 4 ; (b) other, 0	
No. of Closets constructed in 1937 for new houses—(a) W.C.'s, 64 ; (b) other, 0	
Any special action being taken by Council to secure conversion of privies and pails to W.C. System. If so, what?—Assistance to owner by provision of drains	

SCAVENGING—

Is public scavenging in operation throughout the whole district?—

Yes

If not, is it in operation in any part of the area. If so please specify—Not applicable

How is refuse disposed of? Destruction—No Tipping—Yes 100%
Farmers—No

If tipping is in operation, is it on the controlled system?—Yes

Total annual cost of collection and disposal of refuse—£700

WATER SUPPLY—

Source of supply—From Deep Boreholes, Springs, and Upland Surfaces

By whom distributed—In the Parish of Cawthorne, High Hoyland, Thurgoland, Oxspring and Hunshelf by R.D.C. In the Parish of Silkstone by Barnsley Corporation

No. of houses on public supply—Investigation proceeding

Any extension of supply during the year—None

Has supply been satisfactory—Yes

(a) In quality—Yes (b) In quantity—Yes

Any examinations made during the year—No

(a) Chemical—No Result—Not applicable

(b) Bacteriological—No Result—Not applicable

Have any supplies been restricted or closed, if so, where?—No

MILK SUPPLY—

Are Two Registers being kept as required by Section 2 (3) of the 1922 Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act?—Yes

(a) For Retailers—Yes

(b) For Cow-keepers or Wholesale Traders—Yes

Have any retailers been removed from the Register?—No

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936—

1 No. of Licences in force in area for :—

(a) Production of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk—1 ; Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically :—No. Satisfactory 2 ; Unsatisfactory 0 ; Total 2

(b) Production of "Accredited" Milk—5 ; Samples of designated milk examined bacteriologically :—No. Satisfactory 18 ; Unsatisfactory 6 ; Total 24

(c) In respect of Pasteurising plants—None

No. of Milk samples taken by Officers of L.A. for analysis under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928—None

No. found adulterated—Not applicable

No. of prosecutions—Not applicable

No. of samples of Ordinary Milk taken by Officers of L.A. Fig 1 for :

(a) Methylene blue test—0 (b) Presence of tuberculosis—12

Any special examination of Milk for Dirt, *e.g.*, sedimentation test—0

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1937—No

No. of Cowkeepers in district—120

No. registered—98

Total No. of Cowsheds—120

Total No. of Milk Cows—1030

Total No. of Cowsheds Inspected during the year—220

Total No. of Cowshed Inspections—220

No. of Wholesale Traders Registered—22

No. of Retail Milk Sellers Registered—70

Observations as to structural conditions, cleanliness and methods of production and handling of milk—None

MEAT INSPECTION—

Any public abattoir in district?—No

Total No. of private slaughterhouses—9 Made up of—

1 Registered and licensed—8

No. unsatisfactory either as regards structure, position, or in other respects—None

Total number of carcasses inspected—

Cows 224, Calves 5, Sheep and Lambs 300, Pigs 302

Number entirely condemned—2

Number of cases where part of carcass or organs condemned—2

Number of prosecutions and results—None

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924—

Meat marking : Is scheme in force under above?—No

If so, give particulars of action under same—

OTHER FOODS—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officers of L.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928—None

No. found adulterated—0 No. of Prosecutions—

No. of Bakehouses in district—1 Total Inspections—2

Are any of bakehouses underground, if so, how many?—

SCHOOLS—

No. of Schools in District—8

No. visited by M.O.H.—All

Action taken—Advisory

Schools closed by M.O.H.—None

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—

No. of smoke observations each of 30 minutes duration taken during 1937—None

No. of above showing excessive emission of black smoke—None

No. of cautions issued—None

No. of statutory notices issued—None

No. of prosecutions—None

SHOPS ACT 1934, Sections 10 and 13 (3)—

No. of Visits paid under the above Act during 1937—3

Unsatisfactory conditions found—1

Remedied—0

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, etc.

No. in District—

Is this class of dwelling showing signs of increase?—

Have Council made bye-laws under Section 268 (4) Public Health Act, 1936?—No

Any action under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936?—No

Has any trouble been experienced in controlling this type of dwelling—No

If so, give particulars—

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS—

Please state :—

No. of Council houses found to be infected—None

Other houses found to be infested—None

What methods are employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs?—No action necessary

What methods are employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses?
—No action necessary

Is the work of disinfection carried out by the local authority or by a contractor?—Local Authority when necessary

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS—

Are there in the district :—

(a) Any public swimming baths or pools?—No

(b) Any privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public?—Yes 1

If so, give brief particulars of each and state what action is taken to ensure satisfactory condition of the water—

Open-air Swimming Bath at Cawthorne. Running Water from stream. No action as to condition of water

ADOPTIVE ACTS in force in the District—

Please give complete list stating also if all Act has been adopted, and if not, what Parts or Sections are in force—

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890 Sect. 16

Do, do, 1907 Sect. 59

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS in force in District

Please give complete list of Bye-laws and Regulations in force, and date of adoption in every case—

Cleansing of Footways, July, 1903

Scavenging, July, 1903

Prevention of Nuisances, July, 1903

Common Lodging Houses, July, 1903

New Streets and Buildings, 1917

Alteration of Buildings—None

Slaughter houses, July, 1903

INFANT MORTALITY—

Any suggestions?—No

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1937?—None

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

Diseases specially prevalent in 1937—None State months—

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list—No

Any influences threatening the health of the District—No

Any arrangements for nursing Puerperal Fever Cases? (for areas autonomous under the M. & C.W. Act, 1918)—

At Home—No

In Hospital—No

ISOLATION HOSPITALS—

General Infectious Diseases—

Address of Hospital—Hoyland Moor, Hoyland Swaine

Any change or extension in 1937—No

Any disease in addition to Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever or Diphtheria (*e.g.* Pneumonia) treated in Infectious Diseases Hospital—No

Name of Authority controlling—Penistone Rural and Urban

Smallpox—

Address of Hospital—Roughbitchworth, Oxspring

Any change or extension in 1937—No

Name of Authority controlling—As above

GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS—

(a) General and Accident—No

Children's—No

(b) Local: Hospital, Cottage—No

(c) Maternity (Homes)—1 Address—Melita, Maternity Home, Oxspring

AMBULANCE SERVICES—

For General Sick and Accident Cases—

Location of Ambulance, Bridge End Garage, Penistone; Ownership, Penistone & District Ambulance Committee; Type of Ambulance, Motor Vehicle; Arrangements for nurse to accompany patient, None; Charges (if any) to patients in district, None

For General Infectious Disease Cases—

Location of Ambulance, Isolation Hospital; Ownership, Local Authority; Type of Ambulance, Motor Vehicle; Arrangements for nurse to accompany patient, ; Charges (if any) to patients in district,

For Smallpox—

Location of Ambulance, Isolation Hospital; Ownership, Local Authority; Type of Ambulance, Motor Vehicle; Arrangements for nurse to accompany patient, ; Charges (if any) to patients in district,

If ambulance of another Authority is used, please state terms and conditions—None

MORTUARIES. What accommodation—

- (a) for accidents—None
- (b) for infectious cases other than at hospital—None
- (c) for other purposes—None
- (d) for post mortem examinations—None
- Any suggestions by M.O.H.—

BACTERIOLOGY (County Laboratory)—

Any suggestions?—No

BURNING SPOIL BANKS.

Any nuisance therefrom? If so, please give particulars—None

SANITARY STAFF

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.—£65

Name of Sanitary Inspector—William Harold Owen

Annual Salary as Inspector—£258

Other Appointments held—	Salary for such other appointments—
Waterworks Manager	£30
Sanitary Surveyor	£52
Housing Officer	£15

Any Assistants?—No

Is Staff sufficient?—Yes

Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by Ministry of Health—Yes

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS ON ANY SUBJECTS—No

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary Requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries. Any suggestions as to need for County Clinics or Dispensaries, or as to existing Clinics or Dispensaries—None

HOUSING STATISTICS.

*Table D.**Year 1937.*

Summary of Housing Work showing the action taken under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1925; the Housing Act, 1930, and the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, or matters arising therefrom.

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.

1. *a* Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)—150
b Number of inspections made for the purpose—200
2. *a* Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations—148
b Number of inspections made for the purpose—200
3. Number of dwelling-houses needing further action—150
a Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—72
b Number (excluding those in sub-head *a* above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation—78
Totals of 3—*a* and *b* should equal figure given for (3)

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their Officers—5

*3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.**A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936.*

1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—56
2. No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—Repairs proceeding
a By owners—Yes
b By Local Authority in default of owners—No

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied—2
2. No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—0
a By owners—Not applicable
b By Local Authority in default of owners—0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13, Housing Act, 1936

1. No. of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation—24
2. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—0
3. No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—0

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made—0
2. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit—0

4—*Unhealthy Areas.*

Have any areas been declared Clearance Areas during the year 1937? If so, please give full particulars as to such, including situation, number of houses, population, and action taken relative thereto—

Parish.	No. of Houses.	Situation.	Population.	Action taken.
Cawthorne	2	Royd Lane	17	Confirmed by Ministry
„	6	Adjacent to Cawthorne Lane	20	Pending Confirmation
Silkstone	5	Pothouses	32	Confirmed by Ministry
„	2	Top Church Hill	10	„ „
„	11	Main Street	26	„ „
„	9	Hill Side	24	„ „
„	3	Main Street	2	Pending Confirmation
Oxspring	2	Adjacent to Bower Hill	7	Confirmed by Ministry
Thurgoland	5	Crane Moor Road	15	„ „
„	3	Roper Lane	10	„ „
Hunshelf	2	Well Hill	11	„ „
„	2	Delph Hill	14 }	„ „
„	2	Delph Hill		Pending Confirmation
Total ...	54		188	

5.—*Number of new houses erected during the year 1937.*

<i>a</i> By the Local Authority	...	...	34
<i>b</i> By private enterprise	...	...	29
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	63

6.—*Housing Conditions*

1. Total number of houses in the District—1435
2. Number of working-class houses included in above—1378
3. General observations as to housing conditions, overcrowding, and shortage of houses—There is general overcrowding. This is due to the fact that the majority of the houses are small. Very many of the houses too, are almost prehistoric, therefore insanitary
4. Any special activity in house building, if so, where—No
5. Any housing scheme projected by Local Authority? If so, give particulars—

15 to be erected at Cawthorne
16 to be erected at Silkstone
14 to be erected at Oxspring
30 in course of erection at Thurgoland
8 to be erected at Silkstone Common
<hr/>
Total 83
<hr/>
6. Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936—No

7.—*Town Planning.*

1. Is the Council a member of any Regional Town Planning Committee? If so, which?—Sheffield Regional
2. Is a Town Planning Scheme in force for
 - a* The whole of the District—No
 - b* Part of the District—No
 If so, give particulars of scheme --
3. Have Council during 1937 passed a resolution deciding to prepare a Town Planning Scheme? If so, does it relate to
 - a* Whole District—No
 - b* Part of District—No
 If part only, please state which part—

8.—Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations—William Harold Owen, Westville Road, Barnsley

9—Has any action been taken to improve the housing conditions of tuberculous families in your district, either by way of building new or special houses, or the granting of special facilities for such families to be housed? If so, please state action taken—None

10—*Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding*

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year—59

(2) Number of families dwelling therein—59

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein—374

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year—0

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year—18

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases—103

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding—0

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report—0

Signed

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1937, for the

RURAL DISTRICT OF PENISTONE,

In the County of The West Riding, Yorkshire,

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act,
1901, in connection with

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors
or Inspectors of Nuisances.

		Inspections
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	...	...None exist
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	...	... 9
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	...	...None exist
	Total	<u>9</u>

Written Notices, None

Occupiers prosecuted, None.

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—None

Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act—None

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

None

